

REPORT

ON

NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 16th August 1884.

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LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.	
BENGALI.					
Fortnightly.					
1	"Sansodhini"	Chittagong ...	700	5th August 1884.	
2	"Tripurá Vártávaha"	Comillah ...	.....	
3	"Prem Pracháriní"	Nawabgunge, Barrack-pore.	.....	
Weekly.					
4	"Alok"	Calcutta ...	.....	8th	ditto.
5	"Ananda Bazar Patriká"	Ditto ...	700	11th	ditto.
6	"Arya Darpan"	Ditto ...	102	8th	ditto.
7	"Bangabási"	Ditto ...	12,000	9th	ditto.
8	"Bártábaha"	Pubna ...	.....	
9	"Bhárat Hitaishí"	Burrisal ...	450		
10	"Bhárat Mihir"	Mymensingh ...	625	5th	ditto.
11	"Bardwán Sanjivani"	Burdwan ...	296	5th	ditto.
12	"Bikrampore Patriká"	Dacca ...	756		
13	"Cháruvartá"	Sherepore, Mymensingh	529	4th	ditto.
14	"Dacca Prakásh"	Dacca ...	425	10th	ditto.
15	"Education Gazette"	Hooghly ...	800	8th	ditto.
16	"Grámvartá Prakáshiká"	Comercolly ...	247	9th	ditto.
17	"Halisahar Prakáshiká"	Calcutta ...	.....	
18	"Hindu Ranjiká"	Beauleah, Rajshahye...	200	6th	ditto.
19	"Játiya Suhrid"	Calcutta ...	700		
20	"Medini"	Midnapore ...	500	31st July 1884.	
21	"Murshidábád Patriká"	Bernampore ...	437	6th August 1884.	
22	"Murshidábád Pratinidhi"	Ditto ...	.....	
23	"Navavibhákár"	Calcutta ...	850	11th	ditto.
24	"Paridarshak"	Sylhet ...	440	3rd	ditto.
25	"Prajá Bandhu"	Chandernagore ...	900	8th	ditto.
26	"Prántavási"	Chittagong ...	600		
27	"Pratikár"	Berhampore ...	600	1st	ditto.
28	"Rajshahye Samvád"	Beauleah ...	.....	
29	"Rungpore Dik Prakásh"	Kakinia, Rungpore ...	220	7th	ditto.
30	"Sádharaní"	Calcutta ...	500	10th	ditto.
31	"Sahachar"	Ditto ...	500	13th	ditto.
32	"Samaya"	Ditto ...	1,500	11th	ditto.
33	"Sanjivani"	Ditto ...	4,000	9th	ditto.
34	"Sáraswat Patra"	Dacca ...	345		
35	"Shakti"	Calcutta ...	.....	
36	"Som Prakásh"	Changripottá, 24-Perghs.	1,000	11th	ditto.
37	"Sulabha Samachár"	Calcutta ...	3,000	2nd and 9th August 1884.	
38	"Surabhi"	Ditto ...	700	11th	ditto.
39	"Udbodhan"	Ditto ...	.....	
Daily.					
40	"Dainik Vártá"	Calcutta ...	450	7th to 14th August 1884.	
41	"Samvád Prabhákár"	Ditto ...	225	9th to 12th, & 14th & 15th August 1884.	
42	"Samvád Purnachandrodaya"	Ditto ...	300	7th to 13th August 1884.	
43	"Samachár Chandriká"	Ditto ...	625	9th, 11th, 13th, and 14th August 1884.	
44	"Banga Vidyá Prakáshiká"	Ditto ...	520	9th, 11th & 13th to 15th ditto.	
45	"Prabháti"	Ditto ...	1,000		
ENGLISH AND URDU.					
Weekly.					
46	"Urdu Guide"	Calcutta ...	365	9th August 1884.	
HINDI.					
Weekly.					
47	"Behar Banahú"	Bankipore ...	.....	7th	ditto.
48	"Bharat Mitra"	Calcutta ...	1,500	11th	ditto.
49	"Sár Sudhánidhi"	Ditto ...	500	9th	ditto.
50	"Uchit Baktá"	Ditto ...	300		
51	"Hindi Samachár"	Bhagulpore ...	700		
PERSIAN.					
Weekly.					
52	"Jám-Jahan-numá"	Calcutta ...	250	8th	ditto.
URDU.					
Weekly.					
53	"Gauhur"	Calcutta ...	100		
54	"Sharaf-ul-Akhbar"	Behar ...	250		
Bi-weekly.					
55	"Akhbar-i-darusaltanat"	Calcutta ...	340		
ASSAMESE.					
Monthly.					
56	"Assam Vilásini"	Sibsagar ...	.....	
57	"Assam News"	Ditto ...	450		
URIYA.					
Weekly.					
58	"Utkal Dipiká"	Cuttack ...	250	26th July 1884.	
59	"Utkal Darpan"	Balasore ...	200	29th	ditto.
60	"Balasore Samvad Váhika"	Ditto ...	116	24th	ditto.
Monthly.					
61	"Sebaka"	Cuttack ...	200		
62	"Taraka"	Midnapore ...	.....	
HINDI.					
Monthly.					
63	"Kshatriya Patriká"	Paina ...	400		
Fortnightly.					
64	"Chumparun Hitakari"	Bettia ...	.....	

POLITICAL.

The *Bhārat Mihir*, of the 5th August, says that the Russian paper *Kabkas* has said that now that Russia has firmly established her influence in Southern

BRARAT MIHIR,
Aug. 5th, 1884.

Russia and England.

Turkistan she should endeavour to engage in commerce with Afghanistan and India. The writer says that the statement of the *Kabkas* should not be disregarded. Russians are now willing to enter Afghanistan in the guise of merchants. Government should be careful and adopt measures for the frustration of the schemes of Russia. The delimitation of the frontiers of Afghanistan will not be sufficient. The stationing of troops at Kandahar or any other place in Afghanistan will not probably do any good, but may lead to disastrous results. If the English Government can begin to carry on commerce on an extensive scale with Persia and Turkistan through Herat before Russia is able to engage in commerce with Afghanistan much good may be done.

2. The following is extracted from the *Murshidabad Patriká*, of the 6th August:—"The Government has fixed the sum of one lakh a year upon Ali Kudr, the Nawab of Moorshedabad, eldest son of our Nawab Nazim Bahadoor in addition to the allowances which, after gradual deductions from the time of Mir Jaffer, had been fixed for the Nawab Nazim. We are exceedingly delighted to hear this intelligence. But the hope which Moorshedabad had cherished for a long time that the Government, considering the abilities and worthiness of that prince, would reward him with a full allowance, together with his ancestral status is, to the misfortune of Moorshedabad, frustrated. Fallen Moorshedabad should now regard the conversion of one and a half lakhs per annum to two and a half lakhs as an instance of the liberality of Government and feel grateful to it accordingly."

MURSHIDABAD
PATRIKA,
Aug. 6th, 1884.

3. The *Arya Darpan*, of the 8th August, is sorry that the Soudan War has not yet come to an end. The number of the rebels is ever on the increase; men are flocking to the Mahdi's standard from all quarters. They attacked Berber, but were repulsed by the British troops stationed there. The rebels are gaining both in number and in strength. They should be checked without delay, otherwise the condition of Egypt would be deplorable indeed.

ARYA DARPAN,
Aug. 8th, 1884.

4. The *Ananda Bazar Patriká*, of the 11th August, remarks that the inability of the Amir to guarantee a safe passage through Afghanistan to the members of the Afghan Frontier Delimitation Commission has led the British Government to consider whether it would send the Commission through Afghanistan, Persia, or Constantinople.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
Aug. 11th, 1884.

5. The *Sahachar*, of the 13th August, says that though Government may not have been frightened at the frowning of the Russian Bear it has been obliged to spend money. Government has to pay an annual subsidy of 12 lakhs of rupees to the Amir of Kabul. It has also to supply him with arms and ammunition from time to time. Government has also to pay an annual allowance of 80 thousand rupees to Ayub Khan. Much money is being spent upon the garrisoning of the north-western frontier. It is said that allowances will be given to the Ghilzis for keeping them under the influence of Government.

SAHACHAR,
Aug. 13th, 1884.

6. The same paper says that what it apprehended has happened. Orders have been given for the sending of troops from India to the Soudan. It is not yet known whether Indians will be saddled with the expenses. Indians should not consent to bear these expenses. They should agitate about this matter.

SAHACHAR.

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION.

MEDINI,
July 31st, 1884.

7. The *Melini*, of the 31st July, says that the wicked people among Europeans in this country have become bent on ill-treating the natives since the agitation on the Ilbert Bill. They are killing natives without provocation. Following their example the Native Christians too are beginning to ill-treat the natives, and thereby ingratiating themselves in the favour of officials. As an instance of this the writer brings forward the case of Baboo Haladhar Sircar, noticed in a newspaper named the *Anti-Christian*, who has been degraded by the Superintendent of Police at the instigation of one Ananda Chundra Sinha, a Native Christian. This man was hospitably entertained by the Baboo, but was subsequently expelled by him on account of his drunkenness.

PRATIKAR,
Aug. 1st, 1884.

8. The *Pratikar*, of the 1st August, says that had Mr. Webb appealed in time his fine would have been remitted. Justices Norris and Cunningham in delivering their judgment in Mr. Webb's case did not fail to shew their ill-feeling towards the Native Press in India. The entire population has been displeased by the judgment of the High Court in this case.

PRATIKAR.

9. The same paper gives brief accounts of Mr. Francis' case and of Mr. Sgardelli's case, and remarks that many believe that the English offenders escape conviction simply because they can spend money in conducting their cases which the coolies cannot.

SULABH SAMACHAR,
Aug. 2nd, 1884.

10. The *Sulabh Samachar*, of the 2nd August, says that race antipathy has increased very much since the Ilbert Bill agitation. Two of the friends of the writer purchased first class tickets and were shewn by a railway officer a first class compartment where there were two Europeans. As soon as the Baboos stepped in the Europeans left the compartment.

SULABH SAMACHAR.

11. The same paper says that Anglo-Indians are very much opposed to the self-government scheme of Lord Ripon. They cannot tolerate that the natives of this country should obtain even the least power in the administration. The Lieutenant-Governor seems to belong to this class of Europeans. Attempts were being made to interfere with the independence of the city of Calcutta, and they have at last proved successful through the help of the Lieutenant-Governor. His Honor seems to have forgotten the instructions of Lord Ripon that the faults of the municipalities are to be overlooked and that every facility is to be given to their free working. He has insulted the most important municipality in the empire, and has become an opponent of the new Self-Government scheme.

PARIDARSHAK,
Aug. 3rd, 1884.

12. The *Paridarshak*, of the 3rd August, says that an able Native Prince is an eyesore to Anglo-Indians. Maharaja Holkar has increased his revenue from 20 lakhs to 60 lakhs. This has become intolerable to a certain class of Europeans. They say that Holkar gets his large revenue by extortion; but that statement has proved to be of no avail. They are now trying to create an impression that Holkar is secretly raising an army. The *Pioneer* is afraid that Holkar will liberate India. The writer says that it is meanness to question the loyalty of those who helped the British Government so nobly during the Sepoy Mutiny.

PARIDARSHAK.

13. The same paper says that any Magistrate who passed such a light sentence on a criminal like Webb would be stoned to death in England. Mr. Johnson

has done well in sending the case up to the High Court with a view to have the sentence enhanced. The Assistant Commissioner has fined Mr. Webb on the charge of unlawfully confining the coolie woman. But with what motive did he confine her? Was it through pure charity? When will God protect the people of India from the hands of these men who are a disgrace to the judicial service? The writer asks the Chief Commissioner to reduce the number of such Magistrates, otherwise the stream of injustice will flow in this country unimpeded.

14. The same paper describes a scene in a tea garden in Assam in which two Europeans are represented as drinking in the company of a coolie woman, and giving

The Assam tea gardens.

instructions to sardars for recruiting coolies. In a conversation which ensues between the Europeans in the garden they are made to say that laws are of no avail in Assam, but are made only to save appearance. Never was a European punished for killing a coolie. The crimes of Englishmen will never receive adequate punishment. The laws are made with a view that other countries may not think that the British Government in India is despotic and uncivilized.

PARIDARSHAK,
Aug. 3rd, 1884.

15. The *Cháru Vártá*, of the 4th August, says that the principle which guides the English in their administration of foreign possessions seems to be, "divide and rule." This principle has become unsuccessful in Ireland and in America; but it has become very successful in India. The natives have forgotten their national existence, and have become greatly selfish. It is not worthy of the British Lion to suspect the native who is so abjectly dependent upon him. The natives cannot sacrifice in the least their interests for the good either of their nation or of their fatherland. Nothing can be expected from those that are necessarily hankering after the favour of their master. Unless the natives can check the progress of luxury among the English, the English will be great losers, and unless the natives can address the English in a united voice they will not be heard: so the English will greatly benefit themselves by cementing the union of natives. It does not speak honourably for the strong if they rule over the weak. There is a dignity in ruling those that are strong. The Mahomedans did not destroy the national spirit of the Hindus, but they utilized it to the utmost. The Mahomedans fell not for confiding in the native, but for their encouraging oppression. The English should give high appointments to the natives, and protect them against the acts of tyranny committed by demoniac Englishmen. They should teach the natives to feel that they are Indians, and that India is their country, and then India would be sure to prosper.

CHARU VARTA,
Aug. 4th, 1884.

16. The same paper says that Government makes a profit of Rs. 12,00,000 a year by dispensing justice, and the Calcutta Chamber of Commerce have petitioned Government to utilize a part of this sum by increasing the number of Judges in the High Court. The writer differs in his opinion from the Chamber. The Judges of the High Court do not work as hard as the judicial officers in the mofussil. The block of work in that court may be easily removed if the Judges work faster and for a larger number of hours. If there be a block, still one Barrister Judge can be transferred from the Appellate to the Original Side, his place in that Side being filled up by a Native Judge. The surplus under head "Law and Justice" may be better used in reducing the expenses of litigation than in providing for barristers. A large amount of expenditure is incurred by the parties to have the records translated and printed. Even persons suing *in formá pauperis* are obliged to pay this cost. In the time of Sir Barnes Peacock the parties had not to pay for the translation of records—an item

The Chamber of Commerce and the High Court.

CHARU VARTA.

of expense which they are obliged to bear owing to the ignorance of the Judges of the languages of the country.

CHARU VARTA,
Aug. 4th, 1884.

Self-government.

17. The same paper says that Mr. Thompson has not succeeded in maintaining the dignity of his position. He does not like that natives should ever be allowed to have free scope for shewing their abilities. Even the people of England say that the natives were greatly illtreated during the Ilbert Bill agitation. The writer thought that Mr. Thompson would not trouble natives any more. But he has been disappointed. The writer is still more disappointed in Mr. Macaulay. He is surprised to learn that one who spoke so eloquently in favour of self-government should himself write a letter to the Municipality of Calcutta with a view to discredit local self-government. The writer says there is no longer hope for self-government in this country.

CHARU VARTA.

Mr. Francis' case.

18. The same paper would be glad if Government took steps to prevent the killing of natives by European planters. Government would be seriously to blame if it did not do this. These stories of oppression and death have created a sensation throughout India. As to Francis, since the court has found him not guilty he must be considered innocent.

CHARU VARTA.

Mr. Wallace, and the Madras High Court.

19. The same paper comments on the decision of the Judges of the Madras High Court in the case of Mr. Wallace *versus* the Governor of Madras. That case could be instituted only in the Court of Queen's Bench in England. The writer says that it is very hard if one has to go to England to institute any proceeding against an officer of Government.

BHARAT MIHIR,
Aug. 5th, 1884.

The Kishnagore students' case.

20. The *Bhārat Mihir*, of the 5th August, says that it lost all patience when it read the proceedings of the Kishnagore students' case. Then thinking of the degradation of the people, it wished that the whole country had been engulfed by the ocean. The writer complains that the officials are very hard upon students. The unjust punishment of the Dacca students has not yet been forgotten. The other day two students of Mymensingh were committed for trial for entering the Officiating Magistrate's compound.

BHARAT MIHIR.

Alarm of natives at the letting off of English criminals.

21. The same paper says that the people are becoming more and more unhappy and anxious day by day. The successive acquittals of several Englishmen accused of killing or otherwise gravely injuring natives have filled the people with alarm and uneasiness. It may be that all these Englishmen were innocent; but this is so strange that it is not possible for natives to believe it. The Judge of Hooghly did not consider Mr. Sgardelli innocent. Still, instead of referring the case to the High Court, he discharged the prisoner in accordance with the verdict of the majority of the jurors. Mr. Francis also has been discharged. Natives would have been glad at this if they had believed that he was innocent. But the assistance rendered to him by the Defence Association and other circumstances have led natives to doubt his innocence. The High Court has discharged Mr. Webb on the ground that the evidence against him was weak. The Judges should have remembered that the slave-like coolies of the mofussil, far from venturing to give false evidence, do not venture to give even true evidence against an Englishman. The actions and words of the unfortunate coolie woman before her death, the evidence given by the witnesses, the statements of the defendant, his desisting from appealing against the decision of the lower court, the fact that no English barrister or pleader appeared in his behalf—all these arouse grave suspicion about Mr. Webb's guilt in one's mind. No one would have said anything if the High Court had bravely pronounced the defendant innocent; but it has not done so. It has only discharged

Mr. Webb on the ground of the lack of strong evidence against him. The Government pleader appears in many unimportant cases. It is a matter of deep regret that the Government pleader did not appear in this case. But what has pained natives most in this matter is the conduct of Baboo Rash Behary Ghose, the pleader for the defendant. He complained against native newspapers to Mr. Justice Norris. This is really disgraceful. As for Mr. Justice Norris he has not come to this country to win the approbation of the people. Natives are not sorry at his calling native newspapers contemptible. The opinion of a single person does not carry much weight. The writer cannot determine when the present gloom in the minds of natives will disappear. The writer condemns the decision in the case of Messrs. Mitchell and Company *versus* the *East*. Oppressions by Englishmen in the mofussil have increased. Many natives are being killed by Englishmen under the alleged impression that the object shot at was a beast. Natives cannot obtain justice for oppressions committed upon them by Englishmen. Circumstantial evidence, which is in all other cases considered sufficient, is not considered so in cases of Englishmen, because, it is urged, they are foreigners and helpless, and natives perjurers. Owing to the misfortune of natives, murders of natives by Englishmen are considered imaginary, and true facts disregarded as false. The present is sufficiently gloomy; there is no knowing how gloomier the future will be.

BHARAT MIHIR,
Aug. 5th, 1884.

22. The same paper says that the *Statesman* has said that there is no necessity for the present Rent Bill, that the measure has unnecessarily

The Rent Bill.

produced an excitement all over the country, and that if passed into law, it will rob zemindars of everything they possess. It is strange, says the writer, that the *Statesman* has no knowledge of the five hundred suits or more which have been instituted by the ryots in the Midnapore khas mehals against Government, and that he has not read of the wretched condition of those ryots in Mr. Evans' speech. In cases where native zemindars do not venture to enhance rent by 6 or 6½ per cent. Government has enhanced rent by 125 per cent. Even if it be admitted for arguments' sake that the ryots of other zemindars are not oppressed, it must be admitted that a new Bill is necessary for the protection of the miserable ryots in the khas mehals. The Administration Report says that in some cases rent has been enhanced in the Midnapore khas mehals by 166 per cent. Those who are now saying that the present Act is just and requires no amendment have prayed for its amendment a hundred times. The writer says that many provisions in the amended Rent Bill will give rise to excessive litigation between zemindars and ryots. Still Act VIII of 1869 and Act VIII of 1879 and Act VII of 1880, which are sources of great suffering to the ryots in khas mehals, should be immediately repealed. It is a matter of regret that Act VII of 1880 has been preserved intact in the present Bill. The opponents of the Bill instead of trying to demonstrate its uselessness at this eleventh hour should shew what portions of the Bill should be altered or extended in order that both ryots and zemindars may be benefited.

BHARAT MIHIR.

23. The same paper says that it does not know what Lord Ripon is thinking of the harsh treatment of the Calcutta Municipality by those who, as he said

Lord Ripon and the attack of the Bengal Government upon the Calcutta Municipality.

in a speech in reply to the address presented to him by the Delhi Municipality, should introduce the system of self-government, and patiently put up with annoyance and disappointment which may be caused by the thwarting of their pet schemes, and even by the neglect of duties by Municipal Commissioners. What Lord Ripon apprehended three years ago has now actually happened. The task of the introduction of self-government in Bengal has been entrusted to persons who are hostile

to the system. It can be easily conceived what the state of self-government will be under those persons. The whole country is anxiously waiting to see how Lord Ripon will deal with Mr. Thompson.

BHARAT MIHIR,
Aug. 5th, 1884.

24. The same paper says that the Lieutenant-Governor always seeks the happiness of his own countrymen. He does not mind if natives have to be injured in order that the influence and happiness of Englishmen may be increased. Commissioners and Collectors draw large salaries. They also obtain Rs. 5 daily as travelling allowances. But the Lieutenant-Governor is not satisfied with this. He wishes to increase the present rate of allowances to Rs. 7½ per diem. He asked for the sanction of the Government of India, which has accorded its sanction to his proposals. The writer says that the present allowances are sufficient. There is no reason for this increase of allowances, except Mr. Thompson's desire to fill the mouths of his countrymen.

BHARAT MIHIR.

25. The same paper says that the Lieutenant-Governor has called for all the papers relating to Mr. Marriot's case. The writer cannot determine Mr. Thompson's object in doing so; but his former attitude towards the students has filled the writer with apprehensions. It is doubtful whether there is any probability of justice being done to the student who was maltreated by Mr. Marriot by one who recorded a resolution advocating harsh discipline for students.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
Aug. 5th, 1884.

26. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 5th August, gives a brief summary of the Kishnagore students' case, and remarks that the spotless fame of the British Government in India is being tarnished by the actions of a few foolish and haughty English officers. Government should keep a sharp eye upon acts like these, for they are likely to give rise to great evils in future.

HINDU RANJIKÁ,
Aug. 6th, 1884.

27. The *Hindu Ranjika*, of the 6th August, gives a ludicrous account of the way in which the work of the reduction of expenditure is carried on by Government in this country. Sub-divisional officers send an untimely indent for lac-stick. It goes through the Collector's office, the Commissioner's office, the Revenue Board, the Bengal Government, the Accountant-General to the Stationery office. The officer in charge of that office asks for the reason for such an untimely indent. The letter asking for reasons comes through all these offices to the sub-divisional officer, who again sends up his explanation through them to the Stationery office, where the explanation is considered unsatisfactory. A Commission is immediately appointed to enquire into the expenditure of lac-stick consisting of three Deputy Magistrates on Rs. 300 each and a European officer on Rs. 1,300. After long enquiry they come to learn that a few drops of lac fall on the ground at the time of sealing an envelope, and that is the reason why lac-stick is wasted and why an untimely indent becomes necessary. The poor duftry who seals letters is immediately found fault with. The Commission sends its report for the reduction of duftries one by one, and Government expresses its satisfaction at the way it has done its work. The poor duftry is doomed. A large amount of public money is wasted.

PRAJABANDHU,
Aug. 8th, 1884.

28. The *Prajabandhu*, of the 8th August, says that the cutting of the Damuda embankment has caused serious loss to a large number of ryots. The writer is of opinion that in the matter of this embankment Government is guilty of a serious breach of trust, and that the present administration has abetted in the crime by hushing up the agitation on the subject. At the time of the Permanent Settlement the condition of the villages on the river which were carefully protected was good, and so they were assessed at a very high rate. And it is on consideration of such high rate that the zemindar was entrusted

with the repairs of the embankment at Rs. 60,000 a year. It was an excellent arrangement ; but subsequently Government assumed the direct responsibility of keeping the embankment in proper order. But it has not done its duty properly, and thus has caused the ruin of a large number of flourishing villages. The writer then contrasts the action of Maharaja Kirtichandra who, unable to witness the misery of his ryots, constructed embankments and that of the British Government, the high officers of which look on indifferently on the ruin of its subjects, while smoking cigars on the banks of the Damuda.

29. The same paper says that oppression of women and children is oppression of the weak. The oppression on coolie girls is not directly due to officers, though

The English Government.

they encourage such oppression. The officers cannot be said to have no hand in the oppression on females. What would have been the case of Mokhada at Meherpore had not the Baboos intervened ? The officers are not so hard against women as against children, that is, against the school-boys. The writer hears of students' cases from every quarter—from Dacca, from Jessore, from Kishnagore, and from everywhere. The Government is not doing well by illtreating those who are the future hopes of India and the future helps to Government.

PRAJABANDHU,
Aug. 8th, 1884.

30. The *Alok*, of the 8th August, says that the self-government scheme is an eyesore to European officials. The writer does not understand why it is so.

ALOK,
Aug. 8th, 1884.

Mr. Thompson and the Calcutta Municipality.

The English profess to govern India for the good of India, but they act in a different spirit. There is no hope that India will ever be able to govern herself. It is foolish to expect that India will ever have representative institutions like the English Parliament. There was a ray of hope that the people would be allowed to manage their local affairs. But the keen-sighted Lieutenant-Governor thinks that it would be dangerous if the natives got power, and so he is unwilling to concede to them the powers which the Governor-General wishes to confer on them. His Honor wants to prove that the Commissioners of Calcutta are unfit for this work, and therefore *a fortiori* the Commissioners of municipalities in the mofussil are certainly so. Mr. Thompson wants to nip self-government in the bud. He is not going to curtail the privileges of the Commissioners. He simply wants them to undertake works at his bidding. They plead poverty, but he would not hear them. If they do not undertake these works, he threatens them with the appointment of a Commission which will control their action. Last Saturday there was a meeting at the Town Hall to memorialize the Viceroy against His Honor's interference in the affairs of the Calcutta municipality. The fate of the memorial is buried in the womb of futurity. People had a very good opinion of Mr. Thompson before he became Lieutenant-Governor. But he has disappointed all their expectations.

31. The *Education Gazette*, of the 8th August, says that the heavy cost of litigation makes it very hard—nay, impossible for the people to protect their property ; it makes compromise impossible, for if one party be willing, the other party becomes unwilling, lest he is made liable for the cost, which is very heavy. There is no certainty as to who is to win in a case, and so both the parties go on with it. If the cost of litigation is diminished, the revenue will suffer indeed, but it will make compromise possible and lead to a diminution of the number of suits and of the work of the judicial officers. The officers will not be obliged to postpone cases, and there will be no great necessity for increasing the number of Judges.

EDUCATION GAZETTE,
Aug. 8th, 1884.

The cost of litigation.

32. The *Sanjivani*, of the 9th August, says that attempts are being made to extend the Northern India Takkavi Act to other provinces of India. Will the

SANJIVANI,
Aug. 9th, 1884.

The Northern India Takkavi Act.

Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal extend the provisions of this Act to Bengal ?

SANJIVANI,
Aug. 9th, 1884.

33. The Editor of the same paper appeals to his countrymen for setting a grand agitation on foot for distributing ten thousand pamphlets in this and in other countries, and for petitioning Government without delay regarding the failure of justice in Mr. Webb's case.

Mr. Webb's case.

SANJIVANI.

34. The same paper condemns the Commissioners of the Jessore Municipality for giving a reception to an unpopular Governor like Mr. Thompson. Attempts should be made to send him away from this country, but instead of doing that the natives lick the feet of their powerful enemies. His Honor said to the Commissioners in reply to their address that he is no enemy to self-government, and that Government should repose its confidence in the efficient working of municipalities, but that it should keep the power of controlling the action of the Commissioners in its own hands.

35. The same paper warns the people of Calcutta that they are on the point of losing one of their valuable rights. The Judges of the High Court can issue a writ of *habeas corpus* to the Jailor of the Presidency Jail, and the issue of the writ is strictly confined to the Original Jurisdiction of the High Court. If the Presidency Jail be removed to Alipore, it will be placed beyond the Original Jurisdiction of the High Court, and its orders will have no force there.

SANJIVANI.

The removal of the Presidency Jail.

SANJIVANI.

36. The same paper says that the natives are exceedingly mean and selfish. If Jadu is kicked by a European, Nimchand, who stands by, will come to the European, and ask whether his feet have been hurt by the kick, and immediately begin to blow at them with his mouth. Such is native character! The picture is not at all overdrawn. Mr. Rivers Thompson has not yet done any good to the country, but on the contrary he has done much mischief. One who has not yet understood the character of Mr. Thompson must either be a dunce or in one's dotage. But it is a matter of great regret that natives present welcome addresses to him. The people of Bali have named the local school after him. The people of Jessore have followed the evil example of Bali. They presented an address with the object of having the river dredged. They expressed their anxiety lest the climate of Jessore be injurious to the enfeebled constitution of His Honor. Mr. Thompson is not so great a fool as not to understand the meaning of this flattery. The people of Jessore should have known that they could have presented a petition without such a flattering address to an enemy of the country. If the officers see that they are respected, even if they do mischief, they will never cease to do mischief. If the people encourage the enemies of the country, they are much greater enemies than these enemies themselves. The students of Jessore have followed the example of the men of Jessore. They have presented an address to His Honor requesting him to establish a Mahomedan hostel in connection with the Jessore school. The writer thus concludes the article :—

"Students of Jessore, there is no doubt that Mr. Thompson is your great friend. The Dacca student's case is the first act of his friendship towards you, and his second act is the circular on the subject of school discipline. The circular has begun to bear nectareous fruit. The students' case at Kishnagore has forcibly pointed it out. If you do not present an address to such a benefactor and such a friend, to whom are you to present such an address? But in our opinion it would have been well for you to have waited a few days more. It would have been truly manly for you to have presented an address to Mr. Thompson written in the blood drawn from your backs

"by the batons of European constables on the day on which such an event would have occurred?"

SANJIVANI,
Aug. 9th, 1884.

Mr. Francis' case.

37. The same paper is glad to hear that the Deputy Commissioner of Sibsagar has asked for the papers of Mr. Francis' case, with a view of retrying the case. The writer says that a retrial is absolutely necessary. Such crushing evidence will be forthcoming in the retrial that the case will wear a very different aspect. Judge Kennedy remarked during the trial that an Englishman cannot be so ungentlemanly as to kick a woman. The writer says that the English are like lambs. Alas ! how polite !

SANJIVANI.

The suppression of students.

38. The same paper says that since the publication of the Resolution of the Lieutenant-Governor, the students have been held up before the world as rebels ; since then there have been cases of whipping of students at Chittagong and at Berhampore, the trial of a student at Jessore, and the preparation of war at Kishnagore. Again the students and teachers of Kushtea have got into a scrape. A student of one of the lower classes of the Kushtea school committed nuisance at a place near the Magistrate's quarters. A servant of the Magistrate was sent to catch him, but he was rescued by other boys. The friend of the Magistrate who ordered the servant to catch the boy ran with an open sword to snatch the boy away. Both parties sent for the police. The police have sent six boys and the head master for trial at Kishnagore. The trial comes off on the 26th of Shravan. The writer is anxious to see the result of this trial. The Lieutenant-Governor is responsible for all these cases. His resolution is the cause of all these prosecutions. His Honor is hard upon the students, and they are learning how to respect him. The writer is sorry that the students of certain districts have become prone to flattery, and like cowards have licked the feet of the enemy.

UCHIT VAKTA,
Aug. 9th, 1884.

Mr. Webb's case.

39. The *Uchit Vaktá*, of the 9th August, contains an article on Mr. Webb's case. The editor expresses great dissatisfaction at the action of Justices Tottenham and Norris in confirming the sentence (fine of Rs. 100) passed on Mr. Webb by the lower court. There has been, it is remarked, a patent failure of justice in this case. The editor exhorts his countrymen, if they have the least respect for the chastity of their females, and if they have not lost the noble qualities of their Aryan ancestors during seven centuries of foreign subjection, to set on foot a powerful agitation for the purpose of getting this extremely inadequate sentence enhanced, and of obtaining the removal from the Bench of the High Court of such Judges as Messrs. Tottenham and Norris.

BANGABASI,
Aug. 9th, 1884.

Fear of students.

40. The *Bangabási*, of the 9th August, says that the Government of Bengal is afraid of students in the same way as the Governments of Russia, France, Germany, and Ireland are afraid of Nihilism, Communism, Socialism, and Fenianism in their respective countries. All officers of the Bengal Government, from the Lieutenant-Governor down to the ministerial officers, are afraid of students. They are afraid as if the students would dispossess them of the empire of India by throwing pencils and books at them. They are determined to put these students down. Major Ramsay, the Superintendent of the Nuddea Police, has instituted one student's case before another is finished. The writer refers to the case of the Kushtea students. The Magistrate of Kushtea hushed up the case by administering rebuke to his servant, who caught hold of a student by the order of a friend of the Magistrate. But shortly after he had an occasion to come to Kishnagore, where his opinion on the case was changed. He has on his return to Kushtea sent up the head master and some of the students to Kishnagore to take their trial.

BANGABASI,
Aug. 9th, 1884.

41. The same paper is glad to notice the success of Messrs. A. Chukerbati and Loken Palit in the Civil Service Examination. But there are very few fathers in Bengal who are able to bear the cost of educating their children in England. So the writer asks the authorities not to be remiss in their endeavours to raise the standard of age on the pretext that natives would be able to pass the examination even if the present standard of age was maintained.

The age limit in the Civil Service.

BANGABASI.

42. The same paper says that the scenes that are taking place at the court of the Assistant Magistrate of Kishnagore in connection with the students' case are disgraceful. The English Magistrate is trampling the law under foot. The case is a ludicrous one. Strange interpretations are being put upon the provisions of the Penal Code and the Criminal Procedure Code to prove that clapping of hands is using criminal force.

The Kishnagore students' case.

SAMVAD PRABHAKAR,
Aug. 9th, 1884.

43. The *Samvād Prabhākar*, of the 9th August, says that European Jail Superintendents and jail officers are not at all kind to the inmates of jails. If Government makes enquiries it will come to know that English and native prisoners are differently treated. Instances of corporal punishment have decreased since protests were made against that system by the public. But another dreadful punishment, viz. solitary confinement with reduction of diet, is now awarded by jail authorities for the breaking of the jail regulation. The writer recommends that a Commission should be appointed for making suggestions about the reform of the jail administration.

A Commission for the reform of jail administration.

PRABHATI,
Aug. 9th, 1884.

44. The *Prabhātī*, of the 9th August, is afraid that there will be a famine this year. The rainy season has far advanced, but in no part of Bengal has a sufficient quantity of rain fallen. The prices are rising rapidly and the number of thieves and dacoits increasing. There were partial crops last year, but there was a large quantity of grain which had been stored from the yield of previous years. So there was no famine. But this year the case is quite the reverse. Efforts should be made from this time to preserve the crops in the fields. Does the Lieutenant-Governor think that because he has not gone out on river tour that the time has not yet come for concerting means for the preservation of crops by irrigation? If anything is to be done it should be done just now. A circular in October would be of no avail.

The drought.

SAMACHAR CHAN-
DRIKA,
Aug. 9th, 1884.

45. The *Samāchār Chandrikā*, of the 9th August, says that it is weary of condemning Mr. Thompson. Since he wrote his resolution on the Dacca students' case, the students of Bengal have begun to be oppressed. Will not the officials who are given large salaries by India put a stop to this oppression upon students? The writer condemns Mr. Thompson's policy. He says that native newspapers are anxious for his departure from the country, and are praying for his dismissal on account of his policy towards natives.

Mr. Thompson and the oppression upon students.

GRAMVARTA
PRAKASHIKĀ,
Aug. 9th, 1884.

46. The *Grāmvartā Prakāshikā*, of the 9th August, says that India was not so greatly impoverished even in the worst days of the Mahomedan rule as it is at present. There were various means of gaining a livelihood open to the people, but the resources of India were not so completely drained. The people of India have not only become poor, but they have also lost their manliness. The Mahomedans were arbitrary indeed, but the natives had a high sense of honour, and they knew how to take revenge for a wrong. But under British rule they have lost the strength of their character. The people bear the kicks of their

The impoverishment of India.

master, and when their wives are snatched away from their bosoms, they look on vacantly, but never stir for revenge.

47. The same paper says that the employés of all Government offices, judicial or executive, are fond of receiving illegal gratification. There is no knowing how many employés must be pleased if one has to institute a suit in a court. These men do not yield to simple flattery. Good words have no influence on them if not accompanied with money.

GRAMVARTA
PRAKASHIKA,
Aug. 9th, 1834.

The mysteries of law courts.

48. The same paper condemns the appointment of Mr. Finucane as officer in charge of the new Department of Agriculture in Bengal. Mr. Finucane may be a good Settlement Officer, but has he any experience in agriculture? Would it not have been better to have appointed an expert in the art of agriculture to take charge of this department?

GRAMVARTA
PRAKASHIKA.

The Agricultural Department in Bengal.

49. The writer of the same paper is at his wit's end to hear that Mr. Webb, the violator of female chastity, has been fined Rs. 100 only, and that this small fine would also have been remitted, if an appeal had been preferred in proper time. Justice will be simply trampled on foot if Mr. Webb is proved not guilty after the evidence of Budhan, Srimati, and Shyama. If such evidence cannot be relied on, Europeans will never be punished in this country. It is extremely difficult to collect evidence against an Englishman. People do not like to say anything against him even when they know. If again after evidence has been collected the Judges refuse to rely upon it, it would be difficult for the natives to protect their lives and properties from the oppression of Englishmen.

GRAMVARTA
PRAKASHIKA.

Mr. Webb's case.

50. The writer of the same paper is stupefied to hear of the ill-treatment of the students of Kishnagore at the hands of the police. There is no doubt that the weakness of the ruler of Bengal is the cause of all this. Who knows where the consequences of the Dacca students' case will end?

GRAMVARTA
PRAKASHIKA.

The Kishnagore students' case.

51. The *Dacca Prakash*, of the 10th August, expresses a hope that after the Town Hall meeting and the speeches of Mr. Gasper and Baboo Surendranath Banerji, the Lieutenant-Governor will candidly acknowledge his fault, shew that he is a great well-wisher of those for the good of whom these Commissioners have been appointed, and bring the quarrel with the municipality to an amicable close.

DACCA PRAKASH,
Aug. 10th, 1884.

The Calcutta Municipality and the Bengal Government.

52. The same paper says that the circle pandits are very unfortunate. They work hard, but their remuneration is very small. They have to walk for miles to impart instruction, but they are paid Rs. 15 only per month. Great changes have been wrought in the Education Department, but for the last 27 or 28 years, that is since the first establishment of the system, the prospects of the circle pandits have undergone no change. The introduction of the grade system in 1881 has made matters worse for them. Formerly they used to get rewards over and above their pay. But since 1881 the system of granting rewards has been abolished. Those that have been placed in the higher grades are benefited indeed, but their number is small. The great majority of them still receive the same Rs. 15 only: they do not get rewards. The writer hears that the Government of Bengal has granted a lakh of rupees for bettering the prospects of the officers of the Education Department. If the authorities of the department kindly take the case of these poor men into their consideration, their prospects may improve a little.

DACCA PRAKASH.

53. The same paper hears that the minute of the Chief Justice of Bengal on the subject of court-fees has been circulated by the Government of India to all

DACCA PRAKASH.

The costs of litigation.

the Judges and Sub-Judges for an expression of opinion. It is apparent that people cannot defend their property on account of the heavy fees they have to pay for the institution of a case. The writer is sorry that the attention of the Chief Justice has not been drawn to the subject of the copying fees which sometimes amount to a much larger sum than the court-fees proper. The judicial officers are now in the habit of writing long judgments, and the vakils of making long cross examinations which swell the volume of the court records.

DACCA PRAKASH,
Aug. 10th, 1884.

54. The same paper is glad to notice that two native youths have successfully passed the Civil Service Examination in spite of the low standard of age. Many may infer from this fact that there is no necessity for raising the standard of age. But that would be a great mistake. The young men who have passed were in a manner brought up in England. They enjoyed all the advantages of English education and English society. There are few in India who can expect to enjoy so many advantages.

SADHARANI,
Aug. 10th, 1884.

55. The *Sádháraní*, of the 10th August, says that a foreign country can be conquered by brute force and crafty statesmanship, but it cannot be maintained by those means. An empire like India may be founded by the heroism of a Clive and the crafty statesmanship of a Warren Hastings, but it cannot be governed satisfactorily by those means. Had it been possible to maintain a subject country by brute force and crafty statesmanship, England would have been today in possession of the United States. A Government which is more anxious to satisfy its greed than to act virtuously,—which is more inclined to be cruel than to be just, which has a greater reputation for oppressing than for governing the subject people well,—cannot last for ever. The sovereign who does not take timely heed suffers much. Englishmen did not take heed when the bad Government of Warren Hastings and the corrupt administration of justice by Elijah Impey made Indians uneasy. When Burke said that a tyrannical Governor like Hastings and a corrupt Judge like Impey were not punished, he foresaw the future dangers of the British Government in India. Burke said:—"The wrongs done to humanity in the Eastern world shall be avenged on those who have inflicted them. They will find, when the measure of their iniquity is full, that Providence was not asleep. The wrath of Heaven will sooner or later fall upon a nation that suffers with impunity its rulers thus to oppress the weak and innocent." Englishmen will never forget how Burke's prediction was fulfilled in 1857. But such is the nature of Englishmen, and such is the magic influence of selfishness, that the English have not learnt to govern Indians justly even after this bitter experience. Because the English encouraged Hastings in his oppressions, governors like Wellesley and Dalhousie ventured to commit so much oppression upon Indians. Had these Governors not been guilty of great oppression, and had Burke's advice been taken, the English would not have had to encounter the mutiny of 1857. The English have not come to their senses even after the bitter experience of 1857. Indians are now being as much oppressed as before, but the English Government takes no notice of this. The British rule in India has become very unsatisfactory. It should be thoroughly reformed. Bright warned Englishmen in 1859 as Burke did in 1784. Englishmen should act according to the advice of Bright. They should see that Indians are not discontented in the least degree.

SADHARANI

56. The same paper says that the officials are trying their best to improve the condition of Eurasians. Archdeacon Baly is very anxious to improve their condition. Government takes more care for the improvement of the condition of the handful of Eurasians than for that of the whole of India; but the friends of Eurasians will not be able to improve their condition.

The emigration of Eurasians to Australia.

however they may try to do so. Eurasians do not understand their own position, consequently no one will be able to improve it. If a few persons like the poet Derozio had been born among them, there would have been some hope for the improvement of their condition. Forty years have elapsed since the death of Derozio. As no man like him has been born among Eurasians during this long period, there is no hope that such men will be born among them. Eurasians will not cease to be vain so long as they remain in India. They will never equal Indians in learning, intellectual culture and character; but they will not cease to brag. They will benefit themselves and Indians and relieve the Government from uneasiness, if they emigrate to Australia. Much land is lying waste there. The vagabonds of England are converting that country into a wealthy land. Eurasians will do well to join these men with whom they have everything—religion, manners, language, dress &c., in common. The Australian Government has expressed the desire that Eurasians should emigrate to that country. Eurasians should not let slip this opportunity. Government should make arrangements for sending them to Australia.

57. The same paper says that the natives engaged in the presses attached to the different departments under the Government of India have to work with short intermissions, amounting in all to one hour and a half, from 6 in the morning to 8 in the evening. Could these persons overcome unreasonable shame and engage in independent occupations, they would not have to work hard like beasts of burden. The health of these persons break down under hard labour. Ninety per cent. of them do not enjoy the blessings of health. Most of them fall ill of asthma, consumption, and diarrhoea. With the small salaries which they draw, they cannot afford to eat such nutritious food as is necessary for persons who work so hard. It is true that they get small allowances for extra work, but those allowances do not benefit them in the least, inasmuch as they fall ill on account of extra work over and above their usual hard work. If they do not do extra work deductions are made from their salaries, even if they produce medical certificates to show that illness prevented their attendance. One-sixteenth of their salaries is deducted. If Government, instead of giving large salaries to its favourites, spends some money upon the appointment of additional men in the presses, and upon the increase of the salaries of the poor men engaged in it, the lives of many poor labourers may become less miserable.

SADHARANI,
Aug. 10th, 1884.

58. The *Samaya*, of the 11th August, says that no Civilian can become a Lieutenant-Governor without a service of at least 25 years in this country. He becomes thoroughly inured to the heat of the country before he becomes Lieutenant-Governor; but as soon as he becomes Lieutenant-Governor, the heat becomes intolerable to him. The Judges of the High Court do not feel the heat so much, though they have to work as hard. Why do the Commissioners and the Director of Public Instruction go to the hills? The writer has been to Darjeeling himself, and has seen how the officers employ all their time in lawn tennis, in badminton, in balls and in picnics, leaving little time for their work. The Defence Association set a huge agitation on foot against the Simla exodus only to discredit Lord Ripon. Not a word was said against the residence of the Lieutenant-Governor at Darjeeling. The Defence Association was making so much noise about residence in the hills, but since Mr. Thompson's coming to Calcutta they have kept themselves silent. It is rumoured that His Honor has requested them to be silent, for he was sure that, if the Governor-General were prevented from going to Simla, the Lieutenant-Governor's residence in the hills would be put a stop to as a matter of course.

SAMAYA,
Aug. 11th, 1884.

SAMAYA,
Aug. 11th, 1884.

59. The same paper gives a summary of the proceedings in Mr. Webb's case, and finds fault with Government for not appointing some one to plead on behalf

Mr. Webb's case.

of the prosecution. This appears to the writer to deserve serious condemnation with regard to a Government which fails not to appoint senior barristers even in small rent-suits. Justice was administered with some degree of impartiality before the Ilbert Bill agitation, but that little impartiality too has disappeared after that agitation. Justice has disappeared from India. The Hon'ble Judges of the High Court have cast an indelible stain on the good name of Her Majesty's administration. The representatives of Her Majesty should see that the foundations of her empire are not undermined. The Mahomedan empire came to an end because it was oppressive. The English Government too has become oppressive. This is indeed a matter for great apprehension.

SAMAYA.

60. The same paper compares the British with the Ottoman Empire.

The British and Ottoman Empires.

An impression is gaining ground that the Europeans do not consider the killing of natives as a crime. None but George Nairs has been hanged for killing a native. There is no difference in this respect between the British and the Turkish rule. In Turkey Mahomedans guilty of killing Christians escape with impunity, and so in British India Europeans guilty of killing natives, Hindu or Mahomedan, escape with impunity. The forms of a trial are gone through both in this country and in that. There a Mahomedan Judge lets the criminal off, on the ground that no reliance can be placed on the witnesses, and here the European Judge does not believe the evidence of native witnesses, and even of European medical men. Russia comes forward to protect the oppressed Christians in the Turkish Empire. But who will protect the Hindus and Mahomedans of India from the hands of these immoral, brutal, untameable and ferocious Englishmen? When the writer ponders over these things, the thought that naturally comes to his mind is that there is no remedy if a native is killed or otherwise injured by an European.

SAMAYA.

61. The same paper notices with pleasure that two natives of Bengal have successfully passed the Civil Service Examination. The writer thinks that, unless

The age limit of the Civil Service.

the age limit of the Civil Service Examination is raised, Bengalis are not likely to pass in such large numbers as they should. For how many can send their children to England for education? The writer thinks that the agitation set on foot by the Indian Association is likely to produce good results, and he hopes that all India will help the Association in its work.

SAMAYA.

62. The same paper says that India is greatly indebted to England for various things. But the people of India

The physical degeneracy of India.

are degenerating greatly in physique by their contact with a stronger race. Leaving aside the people of Bengal, who are heroes in speech only, the sterner people of other provinces too are getting degenerated. The people of Bhojapore do not seem to be the countrymen of Kumar Singh. The Beharis are worse off than Bengalis. Even Rajputana cannot boast the natural physical strength of her sons. The military authorities are at a loss to find out a remedy for such physical degeneracy.

SOM PRAKASH,
Aug. 11th, 1884.

63. The *Som Prakash*, of the 11th August, asks whether Mr. Thompson

The Lieutenant-Governor's behaviour towards the Calcutta Municipality, and a Commission for enquiring into the actions of village municipalities.

son is the Governor of Calcutta only, and not of the 24-Pergunnahs and other districts of Bengal. Mr. Thompson has moved heaven and earth on account of the prevalence of diseases in Calcutta. But has he at all enquired into the prevalence of diseases in and the miserable condition of the districts under him?

For this reason the writer asks whether Mr. Thompson is the ruler of Calcutta only. The writer says that the Lieutenant-Governor should not persist in appointing a Commission in connection with the Calcutta Municipality. The decision of the Lieutenant-Governor will show whether the system of Self-Government will be introduced in India or not. It is the desire of Lord Ripon that the Local Government will rouse to activity those Municipal Commissioners who will neglect their duties. It is not his desire that the Commissioners should be deprived of their freedom and made servile to Government. The majority of the municipalities in the country are servile to Government. But is the country deriving any benefit at all from the existence of these municipalities? The writer entreats the Lieutenant-Governor to appoint a Commission to enquire into the actions of the mufussil municipalities. The Commissioners of mufussil municipalities are neglecting their duties owing to the absence of enquiries on the part of Government into their actions. The mufussil municipalities are completely subject to the authority of Government. No one will object to the appointment of a Commission to enquire into their actions.

64. The same paper says that the present system of administration of justice should be completely reformed. The continual increase of the value of stamps shows that Government intends to sell justice and not to distribute it. From Government down to the peons, everybody connected with the courts is rapacious. The editor instituted suits against four of his ryots for arrears of revenue. Those ryots took jote potta and gave kabuliyats. There was dispute about the measurement of lands in those cases. An ameen was sent to survey the land. That officer is corrupt and greedy. It is no wonder that ryots should pay an ameen Rs. 25 in order to avoid paying an annual rent of Rs. 100. The ameen in surveying the lands excluded the number of bighas which the ryots desire to possess without paying rent for them. The judicial officer who tried the suits gave decrees favourable to the ryots, whom he considers as innocent as lambs. He did not listen to complaints against the ameen and disregarded the evidence given about his taking bribes from the ryots. After much deduction, the judicial officer gave a decree for Rs. 168 only. The ryots against whom the decrees were given are rich enough to pay Rs. 568 easily. But innocent lambs as they are, they did not pay the money, consequently a body-warrant had to be issued against the richest of them. The peon who was sent to secure the person of the ryot let him go on receiving a bribe of Rs. 10. So much for the system of administration of justice under the British Government. A system like this should be completely altered.

SOM PRAKASH,
Aug. 11th, 1894.

65. The same paper says in a communicated article that on the occasion of Mr. Thompson's recent visit to Ranaghat a girl of the local girls' school presented a petition to him for the release of her father Bhoobun Mohun Dutt, who is now undergoing imprisonment. Mr. Thompson read the petition attentively, and promised to shorten the term of imprisonment. He also promised to consider the case well. The writer says that, if Mr. Thompson wishes to have his name immortalized by the Rivers Thompson Hall being for ever called after him, he will attain his object by releasing the prisoner.

SOM PRAKASH.

66. The *Surabhi*, of the 11th August, is glad to see a Bengali (Arthur G. Chuckerbutty) head the list of successful candidates in the Civil Service examination by beating down 36 English youths.

SURABHI,
Aug. 11th, 1894.

SURABHI,
Aug. 11th, 1884.

67. The same paper says:—The Lieutenant-Governor has called for all the papers relating to the case of Mr. Marriot, the Joint-Magistrate of Dacca, who beat a student of the name of Kaminikumar in the local hospital. The Lieutenant-Governor is in the habit of calling for papers, but he does so only to deceive the people. He wants to make the people understand that he is sincerely desirous that justice should be done to Kaminikumar. By calling for the papers of such cases, he intends to show the people that he is very desirous of doing justice to natives, for he would not otherwise take the trouble of going through masses of papers. But we have grave doubts whether a single page of the records relating to such cases is turned over.

SURABHI.

68. The same paper says that the spirited protest made by the Municipal Commissioners of Calcutta against the Lieutenant-Governor's illegal action is very commendable. It is entirely against the principles of Self-Government that the Lieutenant-Governor should interfere with the freedom of action of the Commissioners when he pleases. But that the Commissioners of such a place as Calcutta should not possess the power of appointing their Chairman and other officers is still more opposed to the principles of Self-Government. An agitation should be made in every ward of the town for obtaining that right.

SURABHI.

69. The same paper says that it has been rumoured that an Agricultural Department will be established under the Bengal Government. If the chief work of that department be to effect improvements in agricultural matters, the sooner it is established the better. It is said that a Civilian of the name of Mr. Finucane will be appointed as head of that Department. Has Mr. Finucane any special knowledge of agriculture? A person possessing a thorough knowledge of agriculture should be appointed to that office.

SURABHI.

70. The same paper says that the chief fault of Lord Ripon is his weakness. He has a sense of justice and knows well what should be done for the welfare of India. But his sense of justice is not of much avail on account of his weakness. It is said that Lord Ripon will reject the petition of the rate-payers of Calcutta against the illegal action of Mr. Thompson on the ground that he cannot interfere in the matter. Lord Ripon is so weak that it is not impossible for him to do so. If Lord Ripon, who has introduced Self-Government in India, and who once ordered and requested every official in the country to introduce Self-Government in the country on an extensive scale, does not now venture to reproach him who is going wrong, the writer will be driven to the conclusion that the hope entertained by Indians that they will obtain the right of Self-Government is a vain one.

SURABHI.

71. The same paper says that the Assistant Commissioner, Mr. Macleod, after making due local enquiries came to the conclusion that Mr. Webb was guilty. Mr. Johnson also thought Mr. Webb guilty, and therefore requested the High Court to enhance the sentence passed upon the accused. Upon what grounds and evidence then have Justices Norris and Tottenham considered him innocent? They have said that there is no evidence that Mr. Webb either wrongfully confined the coolie woman or beat her husband? Two male coolies and one female coolie said upon oath that Mr. Webb had committed those offences. Messrs. Macleod and Johnson believed the statements of those coolies. Why then have not Justices Norris and Tottenham believed them? Is it with them an axiom that coolies are liars? Gradually the highest Court in the land is earning disgrace

by showing undue partiality towards English criminals. The hope that injured natives will obtain justice is gradually disappearing. The people are becoming discontented. There is no hope that the evil will be remedied, unless the whole country enters an indignant protest against such instances of miscarriage of justice. If Indians meekly submit to injustice, the country will be ruined.

72. The same paper says, the question whether native officers of Government have or have not the right to join political agitations should be soon decided. The actions of the officials during the past year and a half show that the English Government does not desire to allow native officers the freedom of joining political agitations. When meetings were held all over the country to show sympathy with Baboo Surendro Nath Banerjea in his imprisonment the officials tried their best to prevent native officers from attending those meetings; and those native officers who joined those meetings were punished. The majority of educated natives serve under Government. Depriving these educated persons of the right of joining political agitations, amounts to throwing obstacles in the way of the political improvement of the country. Lord Ripon requested English officials in his Resolution upon Self-Government to endeavour to infuse political life among natives. But if educated native officers are not allowed to take part in political agitations, how will political life be infused among natives? The writer is glad that the Indian Association has petitioned Lord Ripon for a decision of the question whether native officers have or have not the right to take part in political agitations.

SURABHI,
Aug. 11th, 1894.

73. The same paper says that the reply given by the Municipal Commissioners to the letter of the Bengal Government is worthy of them. They have meekly, but firmly, protested against the action of the Government. The reply seems to the writer unanswerable. The writer hopes that Government will be satisfied with the reply, and desist from pursuing the course which it has adopted at the instigation of wicked men. But he apprehends that the present dispute will not end so satisfactorily. Mr. Thompson is old, worthless, and in dotage. He is completely under the influence of several unscrupulous and selfish persons, who are hostile to natives. It is not probable that those persons will allow him to get out of the quarrel with dignity. Even now they are saying that Lord Ripon will not interfere with the action of the Lieutenant-Governor, and that Mr. Thompson will appoint a Commission under section 28 without consulting the Commissioners. The writer knows that Mr. Thompson is worthless. He will consider Mr. Thompson still more worthless if thwarted in his endeavour to humiliate the Municipal Commissioners by one means, he persists in humiliating them by other means. The writer believes that Mr. Thompson will make himself an object of greater ridicule if he does so. Law and justice are on the side of the Commissioners; consequently Mr. Thompson has no other alternative than resigning his office, or desisting from further attempts to humiliate the Commissioners.

SURABHI.

74. A correspondent of the same paper says that the Government of India is being conducted on the following principles:—

British rule in India.

- (1) Inasmuch as natives are a subject race, they cannot enjoy the privileges of their English conquerors.
- (2) India's relation to England is that of a servant to his master, of the prey to the beast that devours it.

- (3) The only object of England in governing India is to increase the glory and wealth of Englishmen.
- (4) England should govern India so long as the latter can supply her with money. Englishmen should leave India as soon as they find that instead of deriving any profit from ruling India they are being injured on that account.
- (5) Indians may be made happy if the selfish interests of Englishmen are not injured in doing so; but if English interests are in the slightest degree injured, the happiness of Indians should by no means be looked to.
- (6) There is no objection to administering of justice in an impartial manner if Englishmen have not to suffer for the doing so. But justice should be trampled on when impartial justice will make English criminals suffer.
- (7) Indians should be deluded with sweet words.
- (8) Civil and military power and education should not be given to Indians lest they shake off the English yoke.
- (9) Indians should be made completely helpless and powerless in order to prevent their becoming independent of England.
- (10) No other nation should be allowed to possess India.

The correspondent says that India is sure to be ruined by a rule conducted upon the above principles. The downfall of the nation has commenced from the Mahomedan conquest. Many people say that Indians are far happier under the English than they were under Mussulmans, but the correspondent does not believe this. The writer says that Indians were never so helpless as they are now. India has now to depend upon England for everything. The only good effect of British rule has been that Indians have become alive to their perilous situation. Is there no means of extricating Indians from their present helpless situation?

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
Aug. 11th, 1884.

75. The *Navavibhakar*, of the 11th August, says the officials often dismiss subordinate native officers without sufficient cause. With a view to prevent such instances of injustice, the highest officials have from time to time laid down rules regarding the dismissal of officers. But these rules are not in many cases observed. The Governor of Bombay has earned the gratitude of the people by making efforts to save native officers from wrongful and arbitrary dismissal. The editor hopes that Lord Ripon will write a Resolution on the above subject for the guidance of officials. If Lord Ripon comes to know of the sufferings of poor native officers, he will certainly do so.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

76. The same paper says that it has become filled with indignation and despair upon reading the papers relating to Mr. Webb's case in the *Sanjivani*. The writer now sees that the chastity of native women in the mofussil is no longer safe. When the four brutal Englishmen of Allahabad committed an outrage upon a pure native woman, he struck the note of alarm and exhorted Indians to devise means for saving Indian women from the hands of white monsters. But the leaders of native society then said that there was no reason for such apprehensions. Now the horrible outrage committed by Mr. Webb upon the coolie woman of Kokilamukh shows that there was sufficient reason for those apprehensions. In commenting upon the Assistant Surgeon's statement that the death of the coolie woman was due to natural causes, the writer says that it is for experienced doctors to judge whether any trace of outrage could be found in the dead-body seven days after

Mr. Webb's case.

the occurrence. It may also be that Mr. Webb had not succeeded in his attempt to gratify his brutal desire. That he had wrongfully detained the coolie woman for a long time in his own room has been proved beyond dispute. The Assistant Commissioner, who conducted investigations on the spot where the crime was committed, who saw the demeanour of the witnesses, who had in previous cases found of what stuff Mr. Webb is made, is the best judge in this case. He has been satisfied about Mr. Webb's guilt. Mr. Johnson also was satisfied about Mr. Webb's guilt, and not liking the lightness of the sentence, he requested the High Court to enhance it. The High Court has indirectly said that Mr. Webb is innocent, and that the value of the chastity of a native woman is not worth even Rs. 100. The whole country has been astonished at this. If there are other papers besides those which the writer has read, Government should publish them and should point out what statements of the witnesses are not trustworthy. In order to maintain the reputation of the English Government and of the highest Court in the land, Government should shew that Mr. Webb is innocent. Mr. Webb may not be guilty in the eye of the law, but he is so in the eye of common sense. The public mind has been filled with apprehension and alarm. The faith of the people in English justice and English character has been rudely shaken. Government should no longer remain indifferent.

77. The same paper observes that it is superfluous to say that the Provisions about bastu lands in the Rent Bill should contain special provisions about bastu lands. A ryot becomes entitled to the occupancy right in a land which is fit for agricultural purposes after twelve years' possession of it. But owing to the wrong decisions of Judges it has now been almost settled that a ryot can be ejected by the zemindar from bastu land even after 50 years' possession or more, and even though he may have built houses and planted trees and excavated tanks on it. Act X of 1859 and Act VIII of 1869 have made no distinction between bastu lands and lands fit for cultivation or gardening. But Justice Phear in deciding a case expressed the opinion that the same law does not apply to bastu lands and lands fit for cultivation. A few years ago Sir Richard Garth, in the case of Prasannakumari Dabee, dispossessed a ryot of bastu land after 60 years' possession. In 1880 Justice Jackson, in the same manner, dispossessed a ryot of bastu land after many years' possession. The public is very much injured if Judges decide cases without considering the opinions they hold and the practices which obtained among them. The English Judges of the High Court often injure the people in this manner. The ryots in the mofussil are suffering much oppression; many ryots who do not hold any *mourusi* deed, or cannot in any other way prove any *mourusi* right, have been living for generations on bastu lands and effecting improvements thereon by planting trees, &c. Such ryots, when they incur the displeasure of the zemindar, are very much oppressed. The Rent Bill has been introduced for the benefit of the ryots. But can the ryots do for a day without smiths, potters, weavers, washermen, and barbers? Will not the ryots be injured if the above classes are dispossessed of the bastu lands occupied by them? For these reasons special provisions are necessary for the protection of the occupiers of bastu lands. The writer hopes that Government will attend to this matter.

NAVAVISHAKAR,
Aug. 11th, 1884.

78. The same paper says that the auditor, in reporting to the House of Commons upon the accounts of the purchase of articles in England for the use of the Military Department of India, said both in 1879 and 1880 that he could not be sure that the accounts were correct as there had been confusions about the prices of articles. This shows that the accounts of the purchase of articles in England are not all correct. Nobody

NAVAVISHAKAR.

cares whether the money of Indians is being wasted or not? The expenditure in this direction is gradually increasing in spite of Lord Ripon's efforts to reduce it. During the first of the last three years the expenditure was 195 lakhs. The next year it amounted to 197 lakhs, and in the year following to 220 lakhs. In the Store Department of the India Office 88 Englishmen are supported. Their annual salaries amount to three lakhs. Besides these, there are other officers whose annual salaries amount to 20 or 22 thousand rupees. Indians have to spend this vast sum annually. Should not they be supplied with correct accounts of the expenditure? Will the arbiters of the destinies of India always perform their duties in this manner?

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
Aug. 11th, 1884.

79. The same paper says that the Lieutenant-Governor has insulted the Municipal Commissioners of Calcutta for no fault at the instigation of Justice Cunningham and Dr. Payne. The Commissioners have firmly, but respectfully, protested against the Lieutenant-Governor in the reply given by them to the letter of the Bengal Government. They have exposed the hostility of Messrs. Payne, Cunningham and Company to natives. Stains were cast upon the character of Dr. Payne and Justice Cunningham long before this; but these stains have now become deeper. The writer is sorry that Mr. Thompson has earned disgrace by joining these men. Mr. Thompson, who is under the influence of wicked men, has been always showing his weakness; but never did he show so much weakness as on this occasion. Mr. Thompson behaved very rudely to the respectable Municipal Commissioners of Calcutta; but the latter have taught him a lesson in a gentle and dignified style. The Municipal Commissioners have the right of protesting against unjust censure from whomsoever coming. The Municipal Commissioners of Calcutta are the representatives of 500,000 persons. Mr. Thompson has not the power or courage to insult such a large number of persons. Mr. Thompson must be surely in his dotage if he does not come to his senses after receiving the reply given by the Municipal Commissioners. A person in his dotage should not be allowed to remain the ruler of 60 millions of people. Will Mr. Thompson even now allow himself to be led by the nose by the Anglo-Indians?

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

80. The same paper says that Calcutta is a paradise compared with what it was a few years ago. Calcutta is no longer unhealthy as before. Mr. Thompson has been for a long time in the country. He cannot but be aware of the great improvement of Calcutta. Why then is he so hard upon the Municipal Commissioners of Calcutta? The whole of the vast province of Bengal is suffering from diseases. Bengal is on the verge of ruin on account of unhealthiness. Why is the Lieutenant-Governor indifferent to the health of the vast province of which he is the ruler, and so much anxious only for the health of Calcutta, which is a mere dot in it? The Lieutenant-Governor will do well to make efforts to remove the unhealthiness of the mofussil, instead of busying himself about the Municipal Commissioners of the town, which is the healthiest place in all Bengal.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

81. The same paper says that Mr. Thompson observed at Jessore that he is in favour of the system of Self-Government, but he wishes to maintain the authority of Government. But Mr. Thompson has shown his hostility to the system of Self-Government by his conduct towards the Municipal Commissioners of Calcutta. He will not be able to delude the people any longer with words.

Mr. Thompson and the system of Self-Government.

82. The same paper says that the *Englishman* is haughtily saying that Mr. Thompson has made up his mind to appoint a Commission under section 28. Mr. Thompson must be surely in his dotage if he has determined to do this evil action before receiving the reply of the Commissioners. The writer exhorts all Bengalis to agitate about this matter.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
Aug. 11th, 1884.

Mr. Thompson and the Calcutta Municipality.

83. The same paper says that groans are being heard from all sides on account of the failure of crops. In Behar even an one anna-crop has not grown. The ryots of the Maharajah of Durbhunga have prayed for exemption from the payment of rent. The Maharajah, it is said, has promised to grant their prayer if they promise to pay the arrears of rent in a year of good harvest. It has not yet been settled whether arrangements will be made for the feeding of poor ryots. But the Maharajah has determined to open relief works. Will the Bengal Government sit inactive? If a famine occurs in Behar, Bengal also will suffer from scarcity of food. The writer has no faith in Mr. Thompson. The people would have been at ease if a man like Mr. Bernard had been the ruler of Bengal.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

Apprehension about scarcity of food in Behar and Bengal.

84. The same paper complains that the Magistrate of Dacca did not entertain the case brought against Mr. Marriot for assault. The Magistrate should be taught a lesson. It is said that the Lieutenant-Governor has called for all the papers relating to that case. But the writer does not expect any good from Mr. Thompson.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

Mr. Thompson and Mr. Marriot's case.

85. The same paper says that on the 28th July the Calcutta Police found an unknown person lying in an unconscious state in the streets and carried him to the police station. The man did not regain his consciousness even the next day. After this long time the man was sent by the police to hospital. He has died there. The Surgeon has said that the breaking of his head is the cause of his death. The Coroner also is of the same opinion. Now the question is, who broke the man's head? One cannot help suspecting the police. What evidence is there that the man was carried to the police in an unconscious state? Why was not the man at once sent to hospital? The death of Tinkary Sircar, a compositor in the *Hindu Patriot* Press, has not yet been forgotten by the public. Who will drag out this new mystery into the light of day? The writer wants the Deputy Commissioner of Police to answer this question.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

The Calcutta Police and the death of an unknown person.

86. The following which appears in the *Ananda Bazar Patrika*, of the 11th August, is a translation of what is intended to be a judgment of the High Court in Mr. Webb's case :—

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA
Aug. 11th, 1884.

MISCELLANEOUS.

We publish below a judgment in Mr. Webb's case. This is not the judgment delivered by the Assistant Commissioner, which is published elsewhere; the judgment given below must be therefore either that of Mr. Justice Tottenham, or that of Mr. Justice Norris. But the copy of the judgment which we have received is not signed and sealed, so we cannot fully rely upon it. We nevertheless publish a translation of it below, the original being in English :—

The plaintiff is a coolie and Webb is a European; consequently under such circumstances the Court can by no means believe the statements of the coolie. In particular, since the agitation on the Jurisdiction Bill

A judgment in Mr. Webb's case.

serious differences have sprung up between natives and Europeans. Under these circumstances the Court can by no means believe the statements of the coolie.

But even if the coolie's statements are believed, still the Court can by no means punish the defendant. The complainant says that Mr. Webb held out pecuniary temptations to his wife in order to seduce her. Sham, a witness on behalf of the complainant, says that Mr. Webb offered to give money to the coolie girl on the day following that on which he kept her confined in his cabin. But it is our belief that the proposal to give money to the coolie girl was made before this occurrence, and if Mr. Webb did, as a matter of fact, pay money, then the defendant can by no means be thereby liable to punishment.

In the first place, coolie women are naturally persons of bad character. If Mr. Webb did hold out pecuniary temptations to her for the purpose of illicit gratification, the Court cannot understand wherein he acted wrongly. If Mr. Webb had the coolie girl forcibly brought to him instead of offering her pecuniary temptation, for the purpose of his own illicit gratification, Mr. Webb would not even in that case have been in any way guilty.

The complainant says that his wife did not bear a bad character. She did not consent to the sahib's proposal even on his offering her pecuniary temptations. But even if the complainant's statement be true, no fault can be found with Mr. Webb's offering to pay money to his wife. The wife of the coolie was probably young and handsome, for how could she otherwise have attracted the attention of Mr. Webb? Perhaps on seeing her without good clothes and ornaments, Mr. Webb felt pain, and therefore offered to pay her money to buy clothes and ornaments. But the people of this country are so ungrateful that instead of feeling grateful to Mr. Webb for his payment of money for clothing and ornaments for his wife, he has brought this false case against him. If any person had paid money in this way to buy clothes and ornaments for a European's wife, the European would have remembered it for ever.

The complainant says that the defendant took forcible possession of his wife and kept her confined in his cabin, and on his opposing this he beat him. These two statements of the complainant have been proved by evidence. But through the liberality of his disposition Mr. Webb offered to pay money to the complainant's wife, and the complainant and his wife did not agree to take it. If Mr. Webb committed oppression of any kind upon people who are such rascals, the Court should find no fault therein.

But it is the belief of the Court that in forcibly bringing the complainant's wife and keeping her in his cabin, Mr. Webb was actuated by the same liberal desire that led him to pay money to her. Mr. Webb saw that the coolie girl was young and beautiful. He saw that it was improper for her to remain here, there and everywhere, for danger might befall her in so doing. Again he could not feel comfortable by keeping her confined in any other cabin, for khansamahs, mehters, and others have now-a-days become very vicious. One Calcutta mehter has been punished for such misconduct. Mr. Webb probably considered all this, and therefore got hold of her and kept her near him in his own bed-room.

The complainant says that his wife uttered cries all through the night in the saheb's cabin. Even if this statement be true, nothing wrong can be found in it. The reason why she cried aloud may be this: coolie girls dwell all their lives in thatched huts, she felt alarmed on seeing the saheb's cabin and its furniture; perhaps also the saheb asked her to lie on a good bed. Coolie women are always accustomed to lie upon the bare ground, consequently she felt pain on lying upon a good bed. And it may also be

that on her refusing to lie upon a good bed, Mr. Webb made her lie upon it by force, and therefore she screamed.

Again the complainant says that his wife on coming out of the saheb's room said that she had lost her virtue. But have the people, and especially the women of this country, any virtue to lose? But then the coolie girl was Hindu. She touched the saheb's bed after going into his room, and it may also be that out of hospitable feelings Mr. Webb persuaded her to take some food, and it was for this that she said that the saheb had destroyed her virtue.

The complainant also says in his evidence that after coming out of the saheb's room, his wife uttered piteous cries on account of bodily pain, and died on that account a few days after. It seems that these statements of his are false, and if not false, then they show that a new scientific truth has come to light. Everybody knows that a soft body is pained by lying upon a hard substance, consequently if a soft body is pained by lying upon a hard substance, why should not a hard body be pained by lying upon a soft bed? As fire is extinguished by water, so water is dried up by fire. Consequently it is no wonder that the hard body of the coolie girl was pained by lying upon a soft bed. And if this was the cause of pain, then it was by this that her death was caused, and why a criminal case for that? It is necessary to adduce another argument to show Mr. Webb's innocence. Natives do from time to time bring against Europeans cases of the kind which the complainant has brought against Mr. Webb. But no European has been ever punished in such cases. It is in the recollection of the Court that an almost similar case was brought against some Europeans in Allahabad. The guilt of the defendants was proved by evidence, still the jury acquitted them. Consequently, since Europeans are never punished in cases like the one which has been brought against Mr. Webb, the Court cannot, even if the case is proved, punish the defendant in violation of the prevailing practice.

The Court cannot, in connection with this case, refrain from making one more observation. The Court knows from before that natives of this country are so ungrateful as has been shewn in this case. The Court has simply got more evidence of this in the present case. Considering the interest taken by the defendant in the coolie girl, the Court cannot understand how the complainant brought this false case against him instead of feeling grateful to him. Be that as it may, we urge upon the Government that it is necessary to enact a law for the punishment of those persons who are guilty of such ingratitude as the complainant has shown to Mr. Webb. But the Court is unable to act otherwise than in accordance with the law. So long as the courts shall not have full liberty given them in the matter of the trial of cases, so long the courts shall have no other alternative than doing injustice in some cases. For this reason, the defendant is fined Rs. 100. But if the restraint which the law imposes had not existed, the Court instead of punishing would have rewarded Mr. Webb for his gentlemanly behaviour towards the helpless coolie girl.

87. The same paper remarks that in the three cases (those of Francis, Sgardelli, and Webb) which have been just tried, the defendants were all placed upon their trial on a charge of culpable homicide. If what the plaintiffs in these cases stated be true, then three Europeans, it would seem, have almost without any cause respectively taken away the lives of three poor and helpless natives. Of the persons killed, two were females. Of the three defendants two have been discharged, and another has been nominally punished. In all these three cases, the Judges have remarked that there was so much discrepancy in the evidence of the witnesses for the prosecution

that it would not be proper to punish the defendants on the strength of that evidence. Whether that evidence is really of the kind described by the Judges, it is for the readers to judge. In all these three cases, the Judges have discharged the defendants relying on the strength of two maxims of jurisprudence, namely—(1) that a person should be held innocent until he is proved guilty; and (2) that the accused should always be given the benefit of the doubt. The Judges have held that the prosecution have not been able to prove their case, and they have also disbelieved the evidence given by the witnesses for the prosecution and have accordingly discharged the accused. But the opinion of the Judges notwithstanding, those that read the depositions of the witnesses and of the plaintiffs, cannot but come to a different conclusion. Of course, nobody will question the justice of the maxims of jurisprudence referred to above, but in the cases of Francis and Sgardelli, it was shown by the counsel for the prosecution that in all their principal statements the witnesses had not contradicted one another. Any impartial person who reads their depositions as well as the depositions of the plaintiffs will come to the conclusion that the contention of the prosecution was correct, and that the evidence adduced by the prosecution was stronger than that on which Judges in this country generally pass capital sentences on defendants in murder cases.

It is strange that at least in two cases out of the three, namely in the cases of Francis and Sgardelli, the authorities have not made any enquiry as to the cause of the sudden death of Ahladi and Sobhan. It is, of course, not known whether or not Francis, Webb, and Sgardelli were really guilty, or if guilty what was the extent of their guilt. But a perusal of the papers in these cases leaves an impression in the mind that their guilt has been fully proved, and that the Judges by discharging them have suffered British justice to be tarnished.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
Aug. 11th, 1894.

88. The same paper observes in reference to Mr. Webb's case that both the Assistant Commissioner and the Judge of the Assam Valley Districts have

held that Mr. Webb forcibly dragged Sukurmoni into his room and there violated her. The editor remarks that the injustice done in this case by the Assistant Commissioner and the Judges of the High Court will cause less surprise to the people of this country than the fact that there appeared two Bengali pleaders to plead Mr. Webb's cause in the High Court.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA.

89. The same paper says:—The Lieutenant-Governor has returned to Calcutta after visiting Jessore, Khulna, and Ranaghat. There were great rejoicings

in those places on the occasion of his visit. Wherever the Lieutenant-Governor has gone there he has pleased the people by his sweet words. Natives had so long had doubts as to whether Mr. Thompson was really a good person, but those that have seen him at Jessore, Khulna or Ranaghat have had their doubts in this matter removed. They have now perceived that this country would have greatly benefited by Mr. Thompson's rule if he had not fallen into the hands of intriguing men, or if there had been no agitation about the Jurisdiction Bill.

PRABHATI,
Aug. 11th, 1884.

90. The *Prabhāti*, of the 11th August, says that laws are made for the protection of the people and not for ruining them. The English kill natives: the laws

do not protect natives. If the English do what they say, they are to be regarded as righteous men, otherwise they are not men of their word. Anarchy prevails where no reliance can be placed upon the words of the rulers.

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91. The *Samvād Prabhākar*, of the 11th August, says that by pointing to the success of two natives in the last Civil Service Examination, those who are against the raising of the standard of age for the Civil Service Examination may say that there is no necessity for the raising of that standard, inasmuch as two natives have succeeded in the examination in spite of the present low standard of age. This argument, says the writer, has no force. Both of these successful native youths were sent at an early age to England for education. But native youths who generally go to England for competing in the Civil Service Examination do not go there at such an early age.

SAMVAD PRABHAKAR,
Aug. 11th, 1884.

92. The *Samāchār Chandrikā*, of the 12th August, says that the Bengalis do not know their duty, otherwise why should they lick the feet that kick at them. An example of this is not far to seek. Bengalis worship the English who never hesitate to violate the chastity of their woman and to profane their gods. Mr. Thompson, who may well be termed the tyrannical Thompson, has been worshipped as a deity! They have loyalty for Mr. Thompson! They have decorated their village with plaitain leaves and pots full of water. Fie upon Bengalis! They do not understand their duty! They have no idea of what nationality is!

SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Aug. 12th, 1884.

93. The *Samvād Prabhākar*, of the 12th August, says that the rate-payers of the town are unanimously saying that there is no ground on which a Commission under section 28 may be appointed. Mr. Thompson may disregard the opinion of all the rate-payers by appointing a Commission at the instigation of a few Anglo-Indians. But the writer thinks that the Lieutenant-Governor will do well to desist from this course. If he appoints a Commission, the rate-payers will be very much dissatisfied, and obstacles will be thrown in the way of municipal work. The Commissioners also, with a few exceptions, like Messrs. Buckland and Abdur Rahman, will resign.

SAMVAD PRABHAKAR,
Aug. 12th, 1884.

94. The *Samāchār Chandrikā*, of the 13th August, is glad that Sir Wilfred Lawson proposed at a meeting that an able native of India should be returned as representative to Parliament by an English constituency, in order that he may throw light on the discussion of Indian questions. He has said that Baboo Lalmohun Ghose is the person who should be returned as representative by an English constituency. The *London Daily News*, the *Daily Chronicle*, and other English newspapers have supported the above proposal. The writer endorses the opinion of the *Indian Mirror* that at least Rs. 3,000 should be sent to Baboo Lalmohan Ghose in England.

SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Aug. 13th, 1884.

95. The *Samvād Prabhākar*, of the 13th August, says that the best policy would be to have railways constructed by private companies. It is very doubtful whether Government will be able to derive profit within a short time from the extension of railways. No one would have objected if Government could have extended railways out of the money left after all necessary expenses. Many companies in England are ready to collect capital and construct railways in India. Natives also, if encouraged, will form companies and collect capital for engaging in the work of construction of railways. If Government itself undertakes the work of extension of railways, it should reduce expenditure in other directions before doing so.

SAMVAD PRABHAKAR
Aug. 13th, 1884.

SAHACHAR,
Aug. 13th, 1884.

96. The *Sahachar*, of the 13th August, says that those who have not lost the power of judgment must admit that the reply given by the Municipal Commissioners of Calcutta to the letter of Government is crushing. The Commissioners have complained that the Lieutenant-Governor has adjudged them guilty of neglect of duties without allowing them an opportunity of defending themselves. A Governor cannot commit a graver offence than this. A Governor like a sovereign should not favour any particular class or section; his conduct should be such as to firmly convince all sections of the community that they will obtain justice from him. It is a matter of regret that the people are not sure of obtaining justice from Mr. Thompson. The Commissioners have shewn that the charges preferred against them in the memorial of the Anglo-Indians of Calcutta are unfounded, and that considering the amount of money which is at their disposal they have done much. The rate-payers of Calcutta repose entire confidence in the Commissioners. Dr. Payne has said that a body composed of 72 persons can have no sense of responsibility. But he should know that a body in England which is composed of ten times seventy-two persons have a perfect sense of responsibility. Mr. Thompson should acknowledge his error and not persist in his attempts to interfere with the freedom of action of the Commissioners. He should remember that he can injure the system of self-government, but he cannot destroy it.

SAHACHAR.

97. The same paper says that in reply to the address presented to him by the Ranaghat Municipality the Lieutenant-Governor said that he was glad that the Ranaghat Municipality had not asked for new concessions like other municipalities. The writer says that the people of Ranaghat did not ask for new concessions from the Lieutenant-Governor because they have found him out. They will be thankful if he leaves them in possession of the rights which they already enjoy. Men do not ask for blessings from a cruel god or goddess. They only entreat him or her not to injure them.

PRABHATI,
Aug. 14th, 1884.

98. The *Prabhāti*, of the 14th August, asks must natives always remain the sport of the brutal passions of brutal Englishmen? The writer exhorts his countrymen not to remain idle after the decision of the High Court in the Webb's case. They should bring this matter to the notice of Lord Ripon and of Parliament. Indifference will not do. Dependence on God will not help in this world against oppression. They should try to have Mr. Webb adequately punished in this world.

LOCAL AND MISCELLANEOUS.

PRATIKAR,
Aug. 1st, 1884.

99. The *Pratikar*, of the 1st August, is sorry to hear that both the first and the second Munsifs of Berhampore have been transferred. The first Munsif, Baboo Taraprasanna Banerji, was very amiable; he had neither pride nor affectation, and was always anxious to do justice. The second Munsif, Baboo Nagendra Nath Rai, was all along employed in the district of Moorshedabad. He worked both in the sudder and moffusil Munsifships of the district with credit.

PRATIKAR.

100. The same paper is glad to hear of the transfer of Mr. Beames from Lal Bag to Meherpore. The writer says that Mr. Beames has not only not at all improved by his thirteen years' experience, but his rashness and his thoughtlessness seem to have increased. The writer thinks that Mr. Beames should not be put in charge of a sub-division.

101. The same paper has come to know that the Magistrate of Moorshedabad passed no order to kill the wounded horse of Jaffar coachman. He simply ordered that it should not be harnessed until its recovery. But the horse has been most cruelly killed by the police. There should be a searching enquiry as to why the police acted in this fashion.

The police killing a horse.

PRATIKAR,
Aug. 1st, 1884.

102. The same paper is glad to notice that the harvest has been rescued from perishing by a few showers of timely rain. The *amun* paddy is not likely to suffer much.

The prospect of crops.

PRATIKAR.

103. The *Paridarshak*, of the 3rd August, says that one Nazir Shah, a Mahomedan dacoit, who has returned home after seven years' imprisonment, has put the people of several villages round Mansur in Sylhet to great inconvenience and trouble. He goes round the villages in the guise of a fakir, enters the houses of the residents, frightens the women and children, and takes away anything that falls in his way. What is the police at Hingajya doing?

Nazir Shah, a released convict at Mansur.

PARIDARSHAK,
Aug. 3rd, 1884

104. The *Rungpore Dik Prakash*, of the 7th August, is afraid that the want of rain up to the end of the Bengali month of Shrávan is likely to bring about a complete failure of the crops. The writer asks Government to look into the state of the country in time.

The drought.

RUNGPORE DIK
PRAKASH,
Aug. 7th, 1884.

105. The same paper is glad to notice that the well known Baboo Govind Lal Rai, the zemindar of Tajhat, is desirous of raising the Rungpore school to the status of a college at his own expense. It is needless to say that a college at Rungpore is likely to confer great benefits upon the country.

Govind Lal Rai.

RUNGPORE DIK
PRAKASH.

106. The same paper is glad to announce the establishment of a model Trades Association at Ulubaria with the object of encouraging commerce and manufactures. The writer hopes that every native will help the association in its useful work.

The model Trades Association at Ulubaria.

RUNGPORE DIK
PRAKASH.

107. The same paper notices the wretched condition of the pound at Nakaihat. The writer had an occasion to pass by the pound. The pound-keeper was not present, and the schedule of fines not hung up in the way required by law. The want of rain was greatly felt. The condition of the roads was good; two old culverts were undergoing a thorough repair.

The pound at Govinganj.

RUNGPORE DIK
PRAKASH.

108. The *Prajabandhu*, of the 8th August, in its local column complains of the oppressions practised by the zemindars of Beyur in Tangail on their raiyats. These zemindars have become very hard on them since accounts of their oppression have found their way into the columns of newspapers. The writer asks the Magistrate of Tangail to interfere.

The zemindars of Tangail.

PRAJABANDHU,
Aug. 8th, 1884.

109. The *Sanjivani*, of the 9th August, notices in its local columns the occurrence of a dacoity at Dignagore in Furreedpore in the house of Dr. Madan Chandra Sen, whose wife was carried away by 50 latials, who formed the gang of dacoits. She was found weeping on the third day on the banks of the Kumar. This is astonishing under British rule.

A dacoity at Dignagar.

SANJIVANI,
Aug. 9th, 1884.

110. The same paper in the same columns notices the occurrence in Mucksudpur, in the Furreedpore district, of a riot between the Chandals and the Mahomedans. About 2,000 men were engaged in the riot. They fought with wonderful heroism. Many were wounded, but the Mahomedans came off victorious. About 200 persons have been arrested. The inhabitants of seven or eight

A riot at Mucksudpur.

SANJIVANI.

villages have fled from their homes. This is a thing which would never be dreamt of under English rule.

SAMAYA,
Aug. 11th, 1884.

111. A correspondent of the *Samaya*, of the 11th August, says that a famine is apprehended at Rayna. There is no rain. It is extremely hot. If there be no rain for two months more, people will die for want of water.

Apprehension of famine at Rayna.

SAMAYA.

112. Baboo Dharmadas Nath writing to the same paper from Kulpee says that anarchy prevails in the southern part of the district of 24-Pergunnahs. Embankments are frequently destroyed by people at night. In one instance the overseer caused some police constables to be stationed on one of the embankments, lest the people should destroy it. But it has been destroyed at night by a large number of men who were furnished with firearms. The loss of Government on account of the destruction of the embankment is estimated at Rs. 400. The police has failed to trace out the offenders.

The cutting of embankments.

SAR SUDHANIDHI,
Aug. 11th, 1884.

113. The *Sar Sudhanidhi*, of the 11th August, complains that the Commissioners of the Patna Municipality or in other words the Magistrate-Collector of Patna, who is there supreme in municipal matters, levy a night-soil tax at a high rate from the inhabitants of only those wards of the municipality that lie between the eastern and western gates of Patna. This is felt to be unjust. Formerly all the inhabitants of Patna had to pay the tax, but after their petition pointing out the high rate at which it had been assessed, all of them except those living in the quarter of the town referred to above were exempted. The editor remarks that either these rate-payers also should be exempted, or all alike should be required to pay the night-soil tax.

The Patna Municipality.

SAMVAD BAHIKA,
July 24th, 1884.

114. The *Samvad Bahika*, of the 24th July, regrets to find that cases in the High Court of Calcutta do not come on for trial within a reasonable period. This is a great hardship to all suitors concerned. It therefore advocates the institution of Appellate Benches in different parts of the Bengal Presidency.

Appellate Benches.

SAMVAD BAHIKA.

115. The same paper expresses great pleasure at the acquittal of Moonshi Sheik Abdulla and Baboo Harish Chandra Biswas, Sub-Inspector of Police, in Balasore, whose honesty and straightforwardness brought them to grief in a peculiar way.

Acquittal of two accused persons.

SAMVAD BAHIKA.

116. The joy of the editor of this paper knows no bounds in announcing the success of Baboo Lokendra Nath Palit, son of Baboo Taraka Nath Palit, in the last Covenanted Civil Service Examination held in England. It is, however, of opinion that the age limit of candidates for that examination must be so increased as to enable a large number of Indian candidates to appear in the examination.

Mr. L. N. Palit.

SAMVAD BAHIKA.

117. Adverting to the enquiries made by the Commissioner of Orissa regarding the condition, residence, and local property of amlah serving under the Magistrate-Collectors of Cuttack, Pooree, and Balasore, the same paper remarks that the Commissioner should take proper care in issuing orders of transfer, if such are contemplated, inasmuch as the poor amlah are sure to suffer from such measures.

Ministerial officers in the Cuttack, Pooree, and Balasore districts.

SAMVAD BAHIKA.

118. Two correspondents of the same paper named Kreetibas Patnaik and Durga Prashad Saha point out the necessity of establishing a school at Balikuti in district Balasore.

A school at Balikuti.

119. Notwithstanding the adoption of precautionary measures by Mr. Gupta, Vice-Chairman of the Cuttack Municipality, the *Utkal Dipiká*, of the 26th July, remarks that oppression committed on people at the ghats is an established fact. The manjhees employed in the Mahanuddy and Katyari ferry ghats continue to extort money from travellers and pilgrims who cross those rivers.

UTKAL DIPIKÁ,
July 26th, 1884.

120. The same paper gives an account of an able address delivered by Mr. A. M. Bose, Barrister-at-law, at an extraordinary meeting of the Students' Association, Cuttack, on the subject of education.

UTKAL DIPIKÁ.

A lecture on education.

121. The *Utkal Darpan*, of the 29th July, gives an account of the life and works of the late Rai Kristodas Pal, Bahadoor, C.I.E., Editor of *Hindu Patriot*, whose example is held up for imitation by other members of the native community.

UTKAL DARPAN,
July 29th, 1884.

Text-books for vernacular schools in Orissa.

Orissa.

122. A bitter and acrimonious controversy is still going on between the editors of the *Utkal Darpan* and the *Samvád Báhiká*, regarding the selection of text-books for use in vernacular schools in

UTKAL DARPAN.

RAJKRISHNA MUKHOPADHYAYA, M.A. & B.L.,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,

The 16th August 1884.

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